



Department of Health and Environmental Control

2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201

January 18, 1996

Commissioner: Douglas E. Bryant


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Promoting Health, Protecting the Environment

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Nursing Home Administrators

FROM:   
Alan Samuels, Director  
Division of Health Licensing

SUBJECT: Conditions that will allow a provider-wide partial exception to the requirements of Regulation 61-17, Standards for Licensing Nursing Homes, Sections G.(2)(b)(1) & (2).

Regulation 61-17, Sections G.(2)(b)(1) & (2), require that the medical record include, "Record of Admission Physical Examination: (1) Medical history completed 5 days prior to or within 48 hours after admission. (2) Physical findings; diagnosis."

We have determined that an alternative standard to Regulation 61-17, Sections G.(2)(b)(1) & (2), will be acceptable. Nursing homes shall meet either the standards outlined in Regulation 61-17, Sections G.(2)(b)(1) & (2), or in the alternative:

Medical records shall include a history and physical completed within 5 days prior to or within 2 business days (i.e., Monday through Friday) after admission on new admissions being transferred from a hospital (to include swing bed units) or hospital based nursing home. The history and physical requirements for residents admitted from other sources must meet the requirements as outlined in Regulation 61-17, Sections G.(2)(b)(1) & (2).

The standard in Regulation 61-17, Sections G.(2)(b)(1) & (2), will be enforced during inspections, as required either by the regulation or the provider-wide exception. This exception applies to any nursing home licensed by the Department. It relates solely to South Carolina licensing standards. Any adverse condition(s) that may be related to this exception may result in revocation of the exception by the Department.

If there are any questions, you may call (803) 737-7202.

AS:DG:dg

cc: Douglas E. Bryant  
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